

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested. By this amendment, claims 3-7, 9, 10, and 12 are amended.

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 3-7, 9, 10, and 12 if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claims 3-7, 9, 10, and 12 are amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Therefore, claims 3-7, 9, 10, and 12 are allowable.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fischer. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Fischer does not disclose or suggest detent hooks engaging into corresponding detent openings in the base of the gas generator carrier, thus forming a detent mechanism for connecting the covering cap to the gas generator carrier. Nowhere does Fischer disclose that the whole lower end of wall 30 is a detent hook that is part of a detent mechanism for connecting the covering cap to the base 26. Fischer does not even disclose how the cover 24 is connected to the base 26. The downward shaped protrusion in the lower end of wall 30 which extends through the opening to the right of reference number "26" in the drawing does not have any detent at all. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable. Claims 8, 11, and 13, which depend from claim 1, are allowable as depending from an allowable claim and also for their specific features recited therein.

Claim 2, which depends from claim 1, should be allowed for the same reasons as claim 1 and also for the additional feature that an external diameter of the side

wall corresponds to an internal diameter of the peripheral wall and the detent openings in the base adjoin the peripheral wall. Fischer does not disclose or suggest this feature. The opening in the base 26 of Fischer does not adjoin the peripheral wall 28. Rather, the opening is spaced apart from the wall 28 adjacent the inflator 20. Thus, Fischer fails to disclose or suggest detent openings in the base that adjoin the peripheral wall. Therefore, claim 2 is allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified patent application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,


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